

# Puget Sound Shell Refinery

Anacortes, Washington

## HISTORY AND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



2015

USEPA REG



0000475

## **Introduction**

Located on March Point near Anacortes, Wash., the refinery is situated just a few miles from the site where Shell built a terminal in 1911, marking its first entry into the US oil and gas industry. The facility, which initially was owned by Texaco, went in operation in September 1958, processing up to 45,000 barrels of crude oil per day. A half-century later, Texaco and Shell merged their refining and marketing operations in the Western U.S., including the Puget Sound plant. When Chevron acquired Texaco in 2001, Texaco sold its interest in the refinery to Shell.

Currently, the plant processes as much as 145,000 barrels (5.7 million gallons) of crude oil per day. When the refinery first began operating, most of its crude oil came from Canada via pipeline.

Although it continues to receive crude from Central and Western Canada, now most of the facility's feedstock arrives by tanker from oilfields on Alaska's North Slope.

From this crude oil, the refinery produces several products -- including three grades of gasoline, fuel oil, diesel fuel, propane, butane, petroleum coke that is used by companies that refine high-grade aluminum, sulfur, and a petrochemical called nonene.

The refinery is the single-largest taxpayer in Skagit County -- and also the area's largest employer. There are 455 full-time employees.

## **History of Puget Sound Shell**

From 1958 to 2002: Changed ownership from Texaco to Equilon to Shell.

January 1998: Texaco joined forces with Shell to form a company called Equilon Enterprises LLC. Equilon included the combined West Coast refining operations of both companies as well as transportation, lubricants and retail operations. Shell and Texaco service stations were owned or licensed by Equilon Enterprises.

October 2001: Texaco and Chevron merged to form ChevronTexaco. Texaco was required to sell its ownership in Equilon. Shell purchased Texaco's interest in Equilon and is the exclusive owner of the facility.

March 1, 2002: The Equilon Puget Sound Refining Company officially became Shell Puget Sound Refinery.

## **Description of the Stationary Source and Regulated Substances**

### **Crude Unit**

In this unit, water, salt and sediments are removed from the crude oil. Then the oil is routed into the Atmospheric Distillation Tower, where it is heated under pressure. The "lightest" fractions -- those, such as propane, naphtha, kerosene and diesel, which have the lowest boiling points -- vaporize.

They rise to the top of the tower, where they cool and condense and are sent to other units for processing. The remaining crude oil is sent to the Vacuum Pipestill (VPS). Here, the crude is heated in a vacuum, which lowers the boiling point of the fractions. Finally, the remaining oil, called heavy residuum, is sent to the Gas Oil Distillation Tower, where gas oils, or diesel distillates, are removed.



### **Delayed Coking Unit (DCU)**

In the DCU, the heavy residuum from the Crude Unit is poured into a large drum, where it is heated to break down, or "crack," it into fractions that are sent to other units for processing. Then a high-pressure "blade" of water is used to cut the product remaining in the drum –petroleum coke -- into chunks for removal.

### **Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU)**

The gas oils removed from the crude oil in the Gas Oil Distillation Tower are sent to the FCCU. In the unit's reactor, a reusable silica-alumina catalyst helps crack large oil molecules into more valuable products. A "fractionator" separates out the diesel fuel; the remaining crude oil is sent through three more distillation towers, which divide it into gasoline, fuel gas, propane and butanes. The propane and butanes serve as feedstocks for the Alkylation and Polymerization units.

### **Polymerization Unit**

In the Polymerization Unit, propylene – a byproduct of the cracking in the DCU and FCCU – is exposed to phosphoric acid-impregnated catalyst pellets. This process re-forms it into polymer gasoline, used to help blend gasoline, as well as nonene, a feedstock for making petrochemicals.

### **Alkylation Units**

In the Alkylation Units, propylene and another byproduct of the FCCU called butylene are mixed with isobutane and a sulfuric acid catalyst. Then the sulfuric acid is removed and the remaining product is pumped to distillation towers, where it's separated into liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), mixed butanes and alkylate, a high-octane blending component used in lead-free premium gasolines.

### **Hydrotreaters**

Kerosene or low-octane naphtha from the Crude Unit and naphtha and diesel from the FCCU and DCU are pumped to the Hydrotreating Units. They are combined with a catalyst in a high-pressure, hydrogen-rich atmosphere, which removes sulfur and nitrogen contaminants, producing not only desulfurized hydrocarbons, but also hydrogen sulfide and ammonia. The desulfurized hydrocarbons are distilled further into low-octane naphtha and jet fuel.

### **Catalytic Reforming Units**

In the Catalytic Reforming Units, the low-octane, desulfurized naphtha is heated and exposed to a platinum catalyst to produce reformate, a high-octane blending component for gasoline. Chemical reactions in these units also produce hydrogen, which is used in the Hydrotreating Units.

### **Sulfur Recovery Units**

Some crude oil, called "sour" crude, contains higher levels of sulfur. In the Sulfur Recovery Unit, controlled combustion and then a catalyst are used to liquefy and remove the sulfur, which helps reduce emissions and allows the refinery to process this type of crude oil. The liquid sulfur is sold as a fertilizer ingredient.

### **Cogeneration Facility**

The Puget Sound Refinery generates electricity as a byproduct of the refining process. It uses about 350,000 pounds of steam per hour to produce 140 megawatts of electricity— enough power for 70,000

homes. In addition, the Boiler House, which is part of the cogeneration facility, provides steam, instrument and plant air, boiler feed water and fire and service water for the refinery.

### Wastewater Treatment Plant

All sewage and wastewater from the plant is treated and then tested before being discharged into Fidalgo Bay. This helps ensure that the treated water meets standards required by the refinery's NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit. The plant also handles ballast water from ships and recovers oil for recycling.

### RMP Submission History

<u>Plan Sequence Number</u>	<u>Sub Type</u>	<u>EPA Facility Identifier</u>	<u>Facility Name</u>	<u>Facility City</u>	<u>Facility State</u>	<u>Receipt Date</u>
<u>11236</u>	F	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	21-Jun-1999
<u>21606</u>	C	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	07-Jul-2000
<u>22377</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	02-Jan-2001
<u>23861</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	27-Jul-2001
<u>24032</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	31-Aug-2001
<u>24768</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refining Company	Anacortes	WA	26-Dec-2001
<u>26048</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	21-Jun-2002
<u>27485</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	06-Feb-2003
<u>28660</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	04-Aug-2003
<u>29694</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	12-Mar-2004
<u>37283</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	23-Jun-2004
<u>43672</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	25-Aug-2005
<u>45781</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	05-Jun-2006
<u>1000011818</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	22-Apr-2010
C <u>14022</u>						12-Mar-2014
C <u>10596</u>						01-Aug-2012
<u>1000049622</u>	R	100000099252	Puget Sound Refinery	Anacortes	WA	22-Apr-2015

Puget Sound Shell's next RMP resubmission is April 22, 2020.

### Location and Mailing Address

EPA Facility Identifier: 1000 0009 9252  
 Street 1: 8505 South Texas Road  
 Street 2: P.O. Box 622  
 City: Anacortes  
 State: Washington

ZIP: 98221  
County: Skagit

### Facility Latitude and Longitude

Latitude (decimal): 48.478917  
Longitude (decimal): -122.570861  
Lat/Long Method: Address Matching - House Number  
Lat/Long Description: SE Corner of Land Parcel

### RMP Contact

RMP Name of Person: Shirley Yap  
RMP Title: General Manager  
RMP E-mail Address: [shirley.yap@shell.com](mailto:shirley.yap@shell.com)

### Accident History

RMP FIVE-YEAR ACCIDENT HISTORY: The facility has had no reported accidental releases of a regulated substance that have resulted in on-site or off-site impacts, injuries or deaths in the past 5 years.

**Process Chemicals:** The facility has reported 47 covered processes as a Program Level 3.

1. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076762  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 8,500,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
2. Process ID: 1000062340  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076801  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Pentane  
CAS Number: 109-66-0  
Quantity (lbs): 20,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
3. Process ID: 1000062343  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076824  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 26,000



- Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
4. Process ID: 1000062344  
Description: Alkylation Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076828  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propane  
CAS Number: 74-98-6  
Quantity (lbs): 18,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
5. Process ID: 1000062338  
Description: Alkylation Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076916  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 2-Butene-cis  
CAS Number: 590-18-1  
Quantity (lbs): 10,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
6. Process ID: 1000062339  
Description: Railcar Loading Rack  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076920  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 48,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
7. Process ID: 1000062345  
Description: FCCU / GRU  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076924  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 12,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
8. Process ID: 1000062347  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #3  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076926  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 12,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
9. Process ID: 1000062343

- Description: Catalytic Reformer #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076825  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 24,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
10. Process ID: 1000062344  
Description: Alkylation Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076834  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 25,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
11. Process ID: 1000062346  
Description: Polymerization  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076850  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 53,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
12. Process ID: 1000062338  
Description: Alkylation Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076917  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 2-Butene-trans [2-Butene, (E)]  
CAS Number: 624-64-6  
Quantity (lbs): 13,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
13. Process ID: 1000062339  
Description: Railcar Loading Rack  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076919  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 2,300,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
14. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076758

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| Program Level:   | Program Level 3 process |
| Chemical Name:   | Propane                 |
| CAS Number:      | 74-98-6                 |
| Quantity (lbs):  | 1,300,000               |
| Flammable/Toxic: | Flammable               |
15. Process ID: 1000062335
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| Description:         | Tank Farm                     |
| Process Chemical ID: | 1000076759                    |
| Program Level:       | Program Level 3 process       |
| Chemical Name:       | Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl] |
| CAS Number:          | 75-28-5                       |
| Quantity (lbs):      | 4,200,000                     |
| Flammable/Toxic:     | Flammable                     |
16. Process ID: 1000062335
- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Description:         | Tank Farm                      |
| Process Chemical ID: | 1000076763                     |
| Program Level:       | Program Level 3 process        |
| Chemical Name:       | Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-] |
| CAS Number:          | 78-78-4                        |
| Quantity (lbs):      | 7,600,000                      |
| Flammable/Toxic:     | Flammable                      |
17. Process ID: 1000062338
- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Description:         | Alkylation Unit #1      |
| Process Chemical ID: | 1000076788              |
| Program Level:       | Program Level 3 process |
| Chemical Name:       | Propane                 |
| CAS Number:          | 74-98-6                 |
| Quantity (lbs):      | 21,000                  |
| Flammable/Toxic:     | Flammable               |
18. Process ID: 1000062338
- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Description:         | Alkylation Unit #1             |
| Process Chemical ID: | 1000076791                     |
| Program Level:       | Program Level 3 process        |
| Chemical Name:       | Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-] |
| CAS Number:          | 78-78-4                        |
| Quantity (lbs):      | 18,000                         |
| Flammable/Toxic:     | Flammable                      |
19. Process ID: 1000062340
- |                      |                         |
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| Description:         | Hydrotreating Unit #1   |
| Process Chemical ID: | 1000076799              |
| Program Level:       | Program Level 3 process |
| Chemical Name:       | Butane                  |



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| CAS Number:      | 106-97-8  |
| Quantity (lbs):  | 15,000    |
| Flammable/Toxic: | Flammable |
20. Process ID: 1000062346  
Description: Polymerization  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076848  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propylene [1-Propene]  
CAS Number: 115-07-1  
Quantity (lbs): 69,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
21. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076861  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 2-Methylpropene [1-Propene, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 115-11-7  
Quantity (lbs): 150,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
22. Process ID: 1000062339  
Description: Railcar Loading Rack  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076793  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 3,900,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
23. Process ID: 1000062341  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076807  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 35,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
24. Process ID: 1000062341  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076809  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Pentane  
CAS Number: 109-66-0  
Quantity (lbs): 10,000

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|  | Flammable/Toxic: | Flammable |
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25. Process ID: 1000062343  
Description: Catalytic Reformer #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076826  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 11,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
26. Process ID: 1000062345  
Description: FCCU / GRU  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076841  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 15,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
27. Process ID: 1000062346  
Description: Polymerization  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076847  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propane  
CAS Number: 74-98-6  
Quantity (lbs): 230,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
28. Process ID: 1000062338  
Description: Alkylation Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076790  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 51,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
29. Process ID: 1000062340  
Description: Hydrotreating Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076800  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]  
CAS Number: 78-78-4  
Quantity (lbs): 13,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
30. Process ID: 1000062344

- Description: Alkylation Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076831  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 650,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
31. Process ID: 1000062344  
Description: Alkylation Unit #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076832  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 150,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
32. Process ID: 1000062338  
Description: Alkylation Unit #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076789  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 330,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
33. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076860  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 2-Butene-trans [2-Butene, (E)]  
CAS Number: 624-64-6  
Quantity (lbs): 170,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
34. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076859  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 2-Butene-cis  
CAS Number: 590-18-1  
Quantity (lbs): 240,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
35. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076862



- Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Pentane  
CAS Number: 109-66-0  
Quantity (lbs): 4,000,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
36. Process ID: 1000062339  
Description: Railcar Loading Rack  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076918  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propane  
CAS Number: 74-98-6  
Quantity (lbs): 820,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
37. Process ID: 1000062420  
Description: Crude Distillation Unit  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076950  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 8,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
38. Process ID: 1000062421  
Description: Delayed Coking Unit  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076951  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Butane  
CAS Number: 106-97-8  
Quantity (lbs): 4,200  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
39. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076764  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propylene [1-Propene]  
CAS Number: 115-07-1  
Quantity (lbs): 180,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
40. Process ID: 1000062342  
Description: Catalytic Reformer #1  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076817  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]

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| CAS Number:      | 78-78-4   |
| Quantity (lbs):  | 17,000    |
| Flammable/Toxic: | Flammable |
41. Process ID: 1000062346  
Description: Polymerization  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076849  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Isobutane [Propane, 2-methyl]  
CAS Number: 75-28-5  
Quantity (lbs): 45,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
42. Process ID: 1000062339  
Description: Railcar Loading Rack  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076921  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propylene [1-Propene]  
CAS Number: 115-07-1  
Quantity (lbs): 50,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
43. Process ID: 1000062335  
Description: Tank Farm  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076760  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: 1-Butene  
CAS Number: 106-98-9  
Quantity (lbs): 170,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
44. Process ID: 1000062343  
Description: Catalytic Reformer #2  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076822  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propane  
CAS Number: 74-98-6  
Quantity (lbs): 21,000  
Flammable/Toxic: Flammable
45. Process ID: 1000062345  
Description: FCCU / GRU  
Process Chemical ID: 1000076840  
Program Level: Program Level 3 process  
Chemical Name: Propylene [1-Propene]  
CAS Number: 115-07-1  
Quantity (lbs): 19,000

Flammable/Toxic:	Flammable
46. Process ID:	1000062348
Description:	Boiler House/Cogeneration
Process Chemical ID:	1000076858
Program Level:	Program Level 3 process
Chemical Name:	Ammonia (anhydrous)
CAS Number:	7664-41-7
Quantity (lbs):	91,000
Flammable/Toxic:	Flammable
47. Process ID:	1000062335
Description:	Tank Farm
Process Chemical ID:	1000076863
Program Level:	Program Level 3 process
Chemical Name:	Ethane
CAS Number:	74-84-0
Quantity (lbs):	47,000
Flammable/Toxic:	Flammable

## References

<http://www.shell.us/aboutshell/projects-locations/puget-sound/about.html>

<https://cdx.epa.gov/>